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SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 1937

## RUBEN GEORGE VARGA AND MRS. ILONA VARGA

JUNE 27, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4250]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 4250) for the relief of Ruben George Varga and Mrs. Ilona Varga, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Ruben George Varga and Mrs. Ilona Varga. The bill provides for appropriate quota deductions and for the payment of the required visa fees and head taxes.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiaries of the bill are a 52-year-old mother and her 23-year-old son who last entered the United States as visitors on February 22, 1947. The mother is a native of Hungary and a citizen of Israel, and the son is a native and citizen of Israel. The son is blind and he is a well-known and outstanding concert violinist who has given a number of recitals in this country.

A letter dated March 4, 1952, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

MARCH 4, 1952.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
 House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 4250) for the relief of Ruben George Varga and Mrs. Ilona Varga, aliens. The bill would grant them permanent residence in the United States.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Mrs. Ilona Varga and Ruben George Varga are mother and son. Mrs. Varga is a native of Hungary and citizen of Israel who was born in Nyirbator, Hungary, on March 6, 1900. Her son is a native and citizen of Israel, having been born in Tel-Aviv on August 28, 1928. They were admitted into the United States at the port of New York on February 22, 1947, as temporary visitors for a period of 1 year, the son being admitted for the purpose of obtaining treatment to restore his eyesight. They were granted extensions of stay until June 24, 1950, upon the posting of departure bonds. Their application for further extension of their stay was denied as they had indicated that they desired to remain in the United States permanently, and they were informed that their departure from the United States on or before August 31, 1950, would be satisfactory. Both aliens made application for preexamination. The son's application was granted on August 29, 1950, as he was then in a position to obtain the prompt issuance of an immigration visa. He did not, however, take advantage of the preexamination privilege granted him. The mother's application was denied because the Hungarian quota to which she was chargeable was oversubscribed.

Mrs. Varga stated that in 1925 she emigrated from Hungary to Tel-Aviv, Israel, where on August 18, 1927, she was married to a naturalized citizen of Palestine. She stated that her husband presently resides in Tel-Aviv and that he expects to come to the United States when it is possible for him to do so. She stated that her purpose in coming to the United States was to accompany her blind and helpless son. Her son stated that he entered the United States for the purpose of receiving medical treatment for his eyes, he having been blind since the age of 8 years. He stated that he is a violinist by occupation and that in August 1951, he had completed his studies at the Julliard School of Music in New York City, where he had been awarded a scholarship. He stated that he and his mother had been supported by the New York Association for the Blind, but have, since August 1951, been drawing on their \$2,000 savings account. He further stated that he expects to earn money in the future by giving concerts and that he presently has a contract for that purpose with a musician's agent.

The quotas for Hungary and Israel, to which Mrs. Varga and her son are chargeable, are oversubscribed and immigration visas are not readily obtainable. In the absence of special legislation they will be unable to remain permanently in this country.

Whether, under the circumstances in this the case general provisions of the immigration laws should be waived presents a question of legislative policy concerning which this Department prefers not to make any recommendation.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,  
*Deputy Attorney General.*

Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., the author of the bill, submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives the following statement in connection with the bill:

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, JR., ON H. R. 4250,  
 FOR THE RELIEF OF RUBEN GEORGE VARGA AND MRS. ILONA VARGA

On May 23, 1951, I introduced H. R. 4250, for the relief of Ruben George and Mrs. Ilona Varga. Mr. Varga, a young blind Palestinian concert violinist, was admitted to the United States approximately 5 years ago accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Ilona Varga, to study music at the Julliard School of Music and to undergo surgery on his eyes.

Mr. Varga has completed his studies at Julliard School and is now performing in concerts in New York City and other cities in the United States. This exceptionally talented artist is making a substantial contribution to the culture of our country. His achievement is a tremendous encouragement to thousands of

handicapped persons in this country who may be native citizens but who feel that their lives are empty and hardly worth living.

Mr. Varga's application for preexamination was authorized on August 29, 1950, but it was deemed necessary to deny the application of his mother, Ilona Varga, on the grounds that the Hungarian quota to which she is chargeable is over-subscribed indefinitely and she is not in a position to obtain the prompt issuance of an immigration visa. Therefore, Mr. Varga could not follow this procedure to adjust his residence status in the United States; he is helpless without his mother.

Mr. Varga was blinded by a hand grenade and, in spite of this handicap, he has made a name for himself. No other course is open to him, in his earnest and sincere desire to remain in the United States, but the enactment of a private bill for his relief.

The Department of Justice has chosen to report the bill without recommending one way or another on its enactment. They have left entire discretion to the committee. It is my hope that in view of the merits of this bill, and the humanitarian elements involved, the committee will report this bill favorably to the House.

In addition, the files of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives contain numerous letters and documents in support of the bill.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 4250) should be enacted.



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Mr. Yarga's application for green-card was authorized on August 20, 1950, but it was deemed necessary to deny the application of his mother, Hloxa Yarga, on the grounds that the Hloxa Yarga to which she is chargeable is over-extended financially and she is not in a position to obtain the proper insurance of an immigration visa. Therefore, Mr. Yarga could not follow this procedure to adjust his residence status in the United States; he is left without his mother.

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